

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 086531-0130

In re patent application of
Mikihide NAKAMURA et al.

Serial No.: Unassigned

Filed: October 17, 2001

For: REACTOR CORE AND METHOD FOR OPERATING NUCLEAR REACTOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered into the application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 13 as follows:

--13. (Amended) A method for operating a nuclear reactor, as claimed in claim 11, wherein said reactor core is operated with said control rods inserted into said reactor core by 30% or greater of axial length of said control rods.--

Please add new Claim 14 as follows:

--14. (New) A method for operating a nuclear reactor, as claimed in claim 12, wherein said reactor core is operated with said control rods inserted into said reactor core by 30% or greater of axial length of said control rods.—

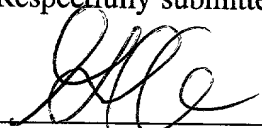
REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments to Claim 13 and new Claim 14 be entered in order to avoid this application incurring a surcharge for the presence of one or more multiple dependent claims. A marked-up version is attached which shows the changes made to Claim 13.

Respectfully submitted,

October 17, 2001

Date


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VERSIONS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

13. A method for operating a nuclear reactor, as claimed in claim 11[or 12], wherein said reactor core is operated with said control rods inserted into said reactor core by 30% or greater of axial length of said control rods.

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